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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SY-05 AID-05 A-01 SS-15

NSC-05 IO-11 PC-01 CPR-02 DNA-02 /076 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9670

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 0133

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, AR
SUBJECT: WAVE OF KIDNAPPING IN CORDOBA
REF: BUENOS AIRES 7930

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, BETWEEN 10 AND 13 PEOPLE WERE KIDNAPPED IN CORDOBA IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS JANUARY 8. SEVERAL GROUPS OF 10 TO 20 PERSONS EACH, USING CARS WITHOUT LICENSE PLATES (AND IN SOME CASES CLAIMING TO BE POLICE) CARRIED OUT THE OPERATIONS. WHILE ACCOUNTS VARY, MOST OF THE ABDUCTIONS APPEAR TO BE THE WORK OF THE "LIBERATORS OF AMERICA COMMAND" (COMMANDO LIBERTADORES DE AMERICA) WHICH ALSO CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE KIDNAP/SLAYING OF 9 STUDENTS IN CORDOBA LATE LAST YEAR (DEPTEL). THEY REPORTEDLY LEFT COMMUNIQUES AT THE SITES OF SOME OF YESTERDAY'S ABDUCTIONS.

2. THE MOTIVE FOR THE MULTIPLE KIDNAPPINGS IS NOT CLEAR. AND SO FAR NO BODIES HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED. LOCAL POLICE DENY THAT THEY HAVE ANY OF THE PEOPLE IN QUESTION IN CUSTODY.
HILL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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